

## COUN OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (jn)

## REVISED NEGATIVE DECLARATION & NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION NO. ED03-149

DATE: January 1, 2004

PROJECT/ENTITLEMENT: Treated Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Interim Ordinance

APPLICANT NAME:

County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department

ADDRESS:

2156 Sierra Way San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

CONTACT PERSON:

Richard J. Lichtenfels, R.E.H.S., M.P.H.

Telephone: 805/781-5544

PROPOSED USES/INTENT: A request to allow for an interim moratorium on the land application of treated sewage sludge (biosolids).

LOCATION: County of San Luis Obispo

LEAD AGENCY: County of San Luis Obispo,

Department of Planning & Building County Government Center Room 310 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040

OTHER POTENTIAL PERMITTING AGENCIES:

California Air Resources Board

California Department of Food and Agriculture California Integrated Waste Management Board

Regional Water Quality Control Board

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information pertaining to this environmental determination may be obtained by contacting the above Lead Agency address or (805) 781-5600.

COUNTY "REQUEST FOR REVIEW" PERIOD ENDS AT ...... 5 p.m. on (Circle one) 20-DAY 30-DAY PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD begins at time of notice publication.

## Notice of Determination

State Clearinghouse No.

This is to advise that the San Luis Obispo County as Elean Agency.

El Responsible Agency approved/denied the above described project on \_\_\_\_\_, and has made the

following determinations regarding the above described project.

The project will not have a significant effect on the environment. A Negative Declaration was prepared for this project pursuant to the provisions of CEQA. Mitigation measures were made a condition of the approval of the project. A Statement of Overriding Considerations was not adopted for this project. Findings were made pursuant to the provisions of CEQA.

This is to certify that the Negative Declaration with comments and responses and record of project approval is available to the General Public at:

> Department of Planning and Building, County of San Luis Obispo, County Government Center, Room 310, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040

> > County of San Luis Obispo

Signature

Title

Date

Public Agency

NFileserver\file server\1 Projects Directory\2001\01-517 Co. of SLO ND Contract\01-517 Biosclids Interim Ordinance\Report\Final ND Biosolids IS Coversheet.wpd

# CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME CERTIFICATE OF FEE EXEMPTION

De Minimis Impact Finding

PROJECT T	TTLE & NUMI	BER: Treated Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Interim Ordinance
Project Appl	icant	
City, State, Tel	Name: Address: Zip Code: ephone #:	County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department 2156 Sierra Way San Luis Obispo. CA 93406 (805) 781-5544
PROJECT D	ESCRIPTION	LOCATION: See attached Notice of Determination
FINDINGS O	OF EXEMPTIO	N:
There is no e wildlife resour	vidence before rees for one or n	this agency that the proposed project has the potential for adverse effect on nore of the following reason(s):
( )	The project i	s located in an urbanized area that does not contain substantial fish or rees or their habitat.
( )	The project is wildlife resou	located in a highly disturbed area that does not contain substantial fish or rees or their habitat.
( )	The project is significant wi	s of a limited size and scope and is not located in close proximity to Idlife habitat.
( )	The applicable approvals for	e filing fees have/will be collected at the time of issuance of other County this project. Reference Document Name and No
(X)	Other: The u	use and proposed regulation of EO treated sewage sludge/biosolids is not significantly impact any biological resources.
CERTIFICA		
initial	study and the	he lead agency has made the above findings of fact and that, based upon the hearing record, the project will not individually or cumulatively have an

Ellen Carroll, Euvironmental Coordinator County of San Luis Obispo

Date: 12/24/03

adverse effect on wildlife resources, as defined in Section 711.2 of the Fish and Game Code.



## COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO INITIAL STUDY SUMMARY - ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Project Title & No. Treated Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Interim Ordinance: ED03-149

"Potential refer to th	lly Significant Impact" for ne attached pages for d	POTENTIALLY AFFECTED: To at least one of the environm liscussion on mitigation measurement levels or require further second contract the contract of the contr	ental factors checked below res or project revisions to e	w. Please
Air Qu Biolog	Itural Resources	☐ Geology and Soils ☐ Hazards/Hazardous Mater ☐ Noise ☐ Population/Housing ☐ Public Services/Utilities	Recreation Transportation/G Wastewater Water Land Use	Dirculation.
☐ Manda	atory Findings of Signifi	icance		
DETERN	MINATION: (To be com	pleted by the Lead Agency)		Market State Company of the Company
T	asis of this initial evaluation The proposed project NEGATIVE DECLARAT	ation, the Environmental Coord COULD NOT have a signifi TON will be prepared.	dinator finds that: cant effect on the enviro	nment, and a
b	e a significant effect in	project could have a significant this case because revisions in tent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE	the project have been made	e by or agreed
		t MAY have a significant PACT REPORT is required.	effect on the environr	nent, and an
n ir n	nitigated" impact on the n an earlier document nitigation measures b	AY have a "potentially significal e environment, but at least one pursuant to applicable legal stased on the earlier analysis PACT REPORT is required, but	e effect 1) has been adequitandards, and 2) has been as described on attache	ately analyzed addressed by ed sheets. An
	potentially significant eff DECLARATION pursua pursuant to that earlier	project could have a significa fects (a) have been analyzed a ant to applicable standards, a r EIR or NEGATIVE DECLAR osed upon the proposed project	idequately in an earlier EIR and (b) have been avoide (ATION, including revision)	or NEGATIVE d or mitigated s or mitigation
Hnge Prepare	d by(Print)		llen Carroll, nvironmental Coordinator	12/24/03 Date 12/24/03
Reviewe	ed by(Print)	Signature	(for)	Date
				~ /

## Project Environmental Ana ..is

The County's environmental review process incorporates all of the requirements for completing the Initial Study as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the CEQA Guidelines. The Initial Study includes staff's on-site inspection of the project site and surroundings and a detailed review of the information in the file for the project. In addition, background information is reviewed for each project. Relevant information regarding soil types and characteristics, geologic information, significant vegetation and/or wildlife resources, water availability, wastewater disposal services, existing land uses and surrounding land use categories and other information relevant to the environmental review process are evaluated for each project. Exhibit A includes the references used, as well as the agencies or groups that were contacted as a part of the Initial Study. The Environmental Division uses the checklist to summarize the results of the research accomplished during the environmental review of the project.

Persons, agencies or organizations interested in obtaining more information regarding the environmental review process for a project should contact the County of San Luis Obispo Environmental Division, Rm. 310, County Government Center, San Luis Obispo, CA, 93408-2040 or call (805) 781-5600.

#### A. PROJECT

DESCRIPTION: - Proposal by the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Environmental Health for a Treated Sewage Sludge/Biosolids Interim Ordinance to allow for an interim moratorium on the land application of treated sewage sludge (biosolids). The moratorium would require the following:

- Any person who desires to distribute or apply biosolids in a quantity equaling or exceeding 5.0 cubic yards during the period of the moratorium, shall notify in writing the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department, Division of Environmental Health thirty (30) days prior to application or distribution; and
- The Division of Environmental Health shall not authorize more than a cumulative total of 1,500 cubic yards of exceptional quality biosolids to be applied or distributed within the unincorporated areas of San Luis Obispo County during any twelve-month period beginning with the adoption of this ordinance. If the cumulative total of exceptional quality biosolids land applied or distributed in a 12 month period is less than 1,500 cubic yards, the remainder shall be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards.
- 3) The Division of Environmental Health shall be empowered to prohibit any application of biosolids, including exceptional quality biosolids under the following conditions:
  - Biosolids failing to meet exceptional quality (EQ) standards as described in 40 CFR 503.13 Table 3 and have achieved a level of vector attraction reduction required by 40 CFR 503.33. Additionally, biosolids failing to meet either fecal coliform of or Salmonella sp. bacterial limits contained in Alternatives 1 through 6 of 40 CFR 503.32(a).
  - The application of biosolids is in excess of the cumulative total limitation set forth above in paragraph 2.
  - The applicant cannot provide documentation of biosolids meeting EQ standards.

ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER(S): Not Applicable

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: All

## B. EXISTING SETTING

PLANNING AREA:

All

LAND USE CATEGORY:

Not Applicable

COMBINING DESIGNATION(S):

Not Applicable

**EXISTING USES:** 

Not Applicable

TOPOGRAPHY:

Not Applicable

**VEGETATION:** 

Not Applicable

PARCEL SIZE:

Not Applicable

SURROUNDING LAND USE CATEGORIES AND USES:

North: Not Applicable

East: Not Applicable

South: Not Applicable

West: Not Applicable

### C. ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

During the Initial Study process, several issues were identified as having potentially significant environmental effects (see following Initial Study). Those potentially significant items associated with the proposed uses can be minimized to less than significant levels.

## COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO INITIAL STUDY CHECKLIST

1.	AESTHETICS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Create an aesthetically incompatible site open to public view?				
b)	Introduce a use within a scenic view open to the public?				
c)	Change the visual character of an area?				
d)	Create glare or night lighting which may affect surrounding areas?				
e)	Impact unique geological or physical features?				
f)	Other				

**Setting/Impact.** The proposed biosolids interim ordinance is not anticipated to result in the foreseeable construction of new structures, result in the disturbance of a significant amount of soil, or generate glare or night lighting.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** Aesthetic impacts resulting from implementation of the proposed ordinance would not result in significant aesthetics impacts; therefore, no mitigation is required.

2.	AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Convert prime agricultural land to non- agricultural use?				
b)	Impair agricultural use of other property or result in conversion to other uses?				
c)	Conflict with existing zoning or Williamson Act program?				
d)	Other				

**Setting.** Implementation of the proposed project would regulate the land application of biosolids, including the use of biosolids as a soil conditioner or low analysis fertilizer on agricultural lands. This type of biosolids land application is introduced at agronomic rates, which is defined by the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Agriculture as the amounts per acre to provide the nitrogen needed by the crop or vegetation grown in soil while minimizing the amount that passes below the root zone.

Currently, the land application of EQ biosolids is not regulated. The majority of biosolids generated in San Luis Obispo County are exported to adjacent counties including Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara for land application, further treatment, landfill cover material, or storage. Up to 1,500 cubic yards of EQ biosolids were given or sold to the public for use on agricultural lands, private and commercial landscaping, and home gardens historically per year in San Luis Obispo County. Alternatives to biosolids include organic fertilizers (i.e., steer manure) and chemically-based fertilizers. The maximum amount of allowable land applied biosolids (1,500 cubic yards) was determined based on the highest amount of biosolids historically disposed of by land application in San Luis Obispo County. If the cumulative total of land applied or distributed EQ biosolids is less than 1,500 cubic yards over a 12 month period, the remainder would be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards.

**Impact.** Implementation of the proposed interim ordinance is not anticipated to impair the agricultural use of properties because the maximum amount of biosolids allowed for land application, including agricultural uses, was based on historical usage. If the use of biosolids becomes unavailable, landowners have access to several alternatives.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No impacts to agricultural resources are anticipated.

3.	AIR QUALITY - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Violate any state or federal ambient air quality standard, or exceed air quality emission thresholds as established by County Air Pollution Control District?				
b)	Expose any sensitive receptor to substantial air pollutant concentrations?				
c)	Create or subject individuals to objectionable odors?				

3.	AIR QUALITY - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable				
d)	Be inconsistent with the District's Clean Air Plan?								
e)	Other								
Setting/Impact. Exceptional Quality (EQ) biosolids have undetectable levels of pathogens, very low levels of heavy metal pollutants, and low levels of degradable compounds that attract vectors and generate objectionable odors. Transport of all biosolids to offsite landfill facilities in San Luis Obispo, Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara counties is regulated by the Integrated Waste Management Board. Transport vehicles are required to be covered to limit escape of particulate matter. The regulated use of land applied biosolids would not result in significant impacts to air quality.									
<b>Mitiga</b> ordina	ntion/Conclusion. No significant impacts to air once.	quality woul	d occur as	a result of th	e proposed				
4.	BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable				
a)	Result in a loss of unique or special status species or their habitats?			2					
b)	Reduce the extent, diversity or quality of native or other important vegetation?								
c)	Impact wetland or riparian habitat?								
d)	Introduce barriers to movement of resident or migratory fish or wildlife species, or factors which could hinder the normal activities of wildlife?	ū							
e)	Other								
Setting/Impact. The use of land applied EQ biosolids is predominantly limited to agricultural land, private, commercial, and public landscaped areas, and gardens. The proposed maximum allowable amount of land applied biosolids (1,500 cubic yards) would not exceed historic amounts following implementation of the interim ordinance. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara.									
Mitiga signific wildlife	tion/Conclusion. The use and proposed reg cantly impact any specific special-status species, e.	gulation of native vege	EQ biosolitation, wetla	ds is not ar and or riparia	nticipated to in habitat, or				
5.	CULTURAL RESOURCES - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable				
a)	Disturb pre-historic resources?				017				
b)	Disturb historic resources?				011				

5.	CULTURAL RESOURCES - Will the project:	Significant	& will be mitigated	Impact	Applicable
c)	Disturb paleontological resources?				
d)	Other				

**Setting/Impact.** The use of land applied EQ biosolids is predominantly limited to agricultural land, private, commercial, and public landscaped areas, and gardens. The proposed maximum allowable amount of land applied biosolids (1,500 cubic yards) would not exceed historic amounts following implementation of the interim ordinance. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** The use and proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to significantly impact any cultural resources.

6.	GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Result in exposure to or production of unstable earth conditions, such as landslides, earthquakes, liquefaction, ground failure, land subsidence or other similar hazards?				
b)	Be within a CA Dept. of Mines & Geology Earthquake Fault Zone (formerly Alquist Priolo)?			100	
c)	Result in soil erosion, topographic changes, loss of topsoil or unstable soil conditions from project-related improvements, such as vegetation removal, grading, excavation, or fill?				
d)	Change rates of soil absorption, or amount or direction of surface runoff?				
e)	Include structures located on expansive soils?				
f)	Change the drainage patterns where substantial on- or off-site sedimentation/ erosion or flooding may occur?				
g)	Involve activities within the 100-year flood zone?				
h)	Be inconsistent with the goals and policies of the County's Safety Element relating to Geologic and Seismic Hazards?				
i)	Preclude the future extraction of valuable mineral resources?				0

6.	GEOLOGY AND SOILS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
j)	Other				

**Setting/Impact.** The use of land applied EQ biosolids is predominantly limited to agricultural land, private, commercial, and public landscaped areas, and gardens. The proposed maximum allowable amount of land applied biosolids (1,500 cubic yards) would not exceed historic amounts following implementation of the interim ordinance. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** The use and proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to significantly impact any cultural resources.

7.	HAZARDS & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Result in a risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances (e.g. oil, pesticides, chemicals, radiation) or exposure of people to hazardous substances?	ū		100	
b)	Interfere with an emergency response or evacuation plan?			18	
c)	Expose people to safety risk associated with airport flight pattern?				
d)	Increase fire hazard risk or expose people or structures to high fire hazard conditions?	Ġ			
e)	Create any other health hazard or potential hazard?				
f)	Other				

Setting/Impact. Biosolids may contain a mixture of organic matter, nutrients, pathogens, heavy metals, and natural and synthetic organic chemical compounds. EQ biosolids have a Class A (undetectable) pathogen level, very low heavy metal pollutant levels, and low levels of degradable compounds. Implementation of the proposed project would regulate the use of biosolids and limit the annual land application volume to 1,500 cubic yards. This number was determined based on the maximum annual historic amount of land applied biosolids. If the cumulative total of land applied or distributed EQ biosolids is less than 1,500 cubic yards over a 12 month period, the remainder would be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** The use and proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to exceed historic amounts of land applied EQ biosolids.

8.	NOISE - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Expose people to noise levels which exceed the County Noise Element thresholds?			286	
b)	Generate increases in the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas?			蓝	
c)	Expose people to severe noise or vibration?			100	
d)	Other				

Setting/Impact. The proposed maximum allowable amount of land applied biosolids (1,500 cubic yards) would not exceed historic amounts following implementation of the interim ordinance. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills. wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara. The proposed regulation of EQ biosolids would not result in the generation of significant levels of noise or exposure to stationary or transportation-related noise.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The use and proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to result in the generation of or exposure to stationary or transportation-related noise.

9.	POPULATION/HOUSING - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Induce substantial growth in an area either directly or indirectly (e.g., through projects in an undeveloped area or extension of major infrastructure)?	<u> </u>			
b)	Displace existing housing or people, requiring construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				
c)	Create the need for substantial new housing in the area?				
d)	Use substantial amount of fuel or energy?				
e)	Other				

Setting/Impact. Implementation of the proposed project would result in the regulation of land applied EQ biosolids. The proposed regulation would be imposed on an existing use, and would not induce growth, displace housing or people, create the need for new housing, or use a substantial amount of fuel or energy to implement.

Applicable

Setting/Impact. All seventeen wastewater treatment plants in the County of San Luis Obispo generate. or have the potential to generate, biosolids. These plants include the following: Atascadero, Atascadero State Hospital, Avila Beach, California Men's Colony, Heritage Ranch, Cambria, Morro Bay, Nipomo, Oak Shores, Paso Robles, Pismo Beach, San Luis Obispo, San Luis Obispo County Club, San Miguel, San Simeon, South County, and Templeton. Disposal options for biosolids include transport to landfills for storage or use as cover material, transport to other facilities for additional treatment, donation or sale to the public for use on agriculture lands (non-consumptive crops), gardens, and landscaping. Based on the biosolids report prepared by the San Luis Obispo County Health Commission Task Force on Biosolids, in 1998, 5,000 cubic yards, 43,480 gallons, and 2,060 tons of biosolids were transported from San Luis Obispo County wastewater treatment facilities to landfills in San Luis Obispo County and 19,900 gallons were transported to the Santa Maria Wastewater Treatment Plant in Santa Barbara County for further treatment. In the same year, 1,981 tons of biosolids were transported to Kern County for composting. The amount of biosolids generated in San Luis Obispo County and land applied in Kern and Monterey counties was 381.50 tons, 1,037,544 gallons, and 2,400 metric tons (Biosolids: An Overview and Recommendations for Land Application in San Luis Obispo County, September 29, 1999). Each of the wastewater treatment, landfill, and farm facilities have their own regulations and capacity limitations pertaining to acceptance of imported biosolids. Implementation of the proposed project would regulate the use of biosolids and limit the annual land application volume to 1,500 cubic yards in San Luis Obispo County, which is the maximum annual historic amount of land applied biosolids. If the cumulative total of land applied or distributed EQ biosolids is less than 1,500 cubic yards over a 12 month period, the remainder would be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** Based on the historic biosolids disposal rate, the proposed regulation would not significantly impact public services or utilities.

11.	RECREATION - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Increase the use or demand for parks or other recreation opportunities?				
b)	Affect the access to trails, parks or other recreation opportunities?				
c)	Other				
Count	y of San Luis Obispo, Initial Study for Biosol	ide Interim	Ordinance	· ED03-149	Page 9

**Setting/Impact.** The use of land applied EQ biosolids is predominantly limited to agricultural land, private, commercial, and public landscaped areas, and gardens. The proposed maximum allowable amount of land applied biosolids (1,500 cubic yards) would not exceed historic amounts following implementation of the interim ordinance. If the cumulative total of land applied or distributed EQ biosolids is less than 1,500 cubic yards over a 12 month period, the remainder would be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** The use and proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to significantly impact any recreational resources.

12.	TRANSPORTATION/ CIRCULATION - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Increase vehicle trips to local or areawide circulation system?			靐	
b)	Reduce existing "Levels of Service" on public roadway(s)?				
c)	Create unsafe conditions on public roadways (e.g., limited access, design features, sight distance, slow vehicles)?				. 🗖
d)	Provide for adequate emergency access?				
e)	Result in inadequate parking capacity?			響	
f)	Result in inadequate internal traffic circulation?				
g)	Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., pedestrian access, bus turnouts, bicycle racks, etc.)?	á			
h)	Result in a change in air traffic patterns that may result in substantial safety risks?				
i)	Other				

**Setting/Impact.** The use of land applied EQ biosolids is predominantly limited to agricultural land, private, commercial, and public landscaped areas, and gardens. The proposed maximum allowable amount of land applied biosolids (1,500 cubic yards) would not exceed historic amounts following implementation of the interim ordinance. If the cumulative total of land applied or distributed EQ biosolids is less than 1,500 cubic yards over a 12 month period, the remainder would be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara. The proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to result in additional traffic trips exceeding current counts.

Mitigation/Conclusion. The use and proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to significantly impact traffic or circulation.

13.	WASTEWATER - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Violate waste discharge requirements or Central Coast Basin Plan criteria for wastewater systems?		Q	***	
b)	Change the quality of surface or ground water (e.g., nitrogen-loading, daylighting)?			12. E	
c)	Adversely affect community wastewater service provider?			400	
d)	Other				

Setting/Impact. Biosolids, or treated sewage sludge, are the organic, solid, semi-solid, or liquid residues generated during the treatment of domestic sewage. Biosolids may contain a mixture of organic matter, nutrients, pathogens, heavy metals, and natural and synthetic organic chemical compounds. EQ biosolids have a Class A (undetectable) pathogen level, very low heavy metal pollutant levels, and low levels of degradable compounds. Implementation of the proposed project would regulate the use of biosolids and limit the annual land application volume to 1,500 cubic yards. This number was determined based on the maximum annual historic amount of land applied biosolids. If the cumulative total of land applied or distributed EQ biosolids is less than 1,500 cubic yards over a 12 month period, the remainder would be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara. The use and proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to exceed historic amounts of land applied EQ biosolids.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** Implementation of the proposed regulation would not require the construction of new facilities or result in a Central Coast Basin Plan violation; therefore, no wastewater impacts are anticipated.

14.	WATER - Will the project:	Potentially Significant	Impact can & will be mitigated	Insignificant Impact	Not Applicable
a)	Violate any water quality standards?			3	
b)	Discharge into surface waters or otherwise alter surface water quality (e.g., turbidity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, etc.)?				
c)	Change the quality of groundwater (e.g., saltwater intrusion, nitrogen-loading, etc.)?				
d)	Change the quantity or movement of available surface or ground water?			100	
e)	Adversely affect community water service provider?			7.2	
f)	Other				

Setting/Impact. Biosolids may contain a mixture of organic matter, nutrients, pathogens, heavy metals, and natural and synthetic organic chemical compounds. EQ biosolids have a Class A (undetectable)

pathogen level, very low heavy metal pollutant levels, and low levels of degradable compounds. Implementation of the proposed project would regulate the use of biosolids and limit the annual land application volume to 1,500 cubic yards. This number was determined based on the maximum annual historic amount of land applied biosolids. If the cumulative total of land applied or distributed EQ biosolids is less than 1,500 cubic yards over a 12 month period, the remainder would be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards. Biosolids not land applied in San Luis Obispo County would continue to be moved to local landfills or transported to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities, and farms in the counties of Kern, Monterey, and Santa Barbara.

**Mitigation/Conclusion.** The use and proposed regulation of EQ biosolids is not anticipated to exceed historic amounts of land applied EQ biosolids; therefore no impacts to surface water or water supply would occur.

15.	LAND USE - Will the project:	Inconsistent	Potentially Inconsistent	Consistent	Not Applicable
a)	Be potentially inconsistent with land use, policy/regulation (e.g., general plan [county land use element and ordinance], local coastal plan, specific plan, Clean Air Plan, etc.) adopted to avoid or mitigate for environmental effects?				
b)	Be potentially inconsistent with any habitat or community conservation plan?			(6)	
c)	Be potentially inconsistent with adopted agency environmental plans or policies with jurisdiction over the project?	Q			
d)	Be potentially incompatible with surrounding land uses?				
e)	Other				

**Setting/Impact.** The proposed project was reviewed for consistency with policy and/or regulatory documents relating to the environment and appropriate land use (e.g., County Land Use Ordinance). The project was found to be consistent with these documents.

Current County policy requires that all land applications of biosolids that cannot be applied at an agronomic rate shall be evaluated as a disposal site under a discretionary land use permit. This requirement would not be affected by the proposed interim ordinance.

Mitigation/Conclusion. No inconsistencies were identified and no mitigation measures are required.

## 16. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF Sign SIGNIFICANCE - Will the project:

Potentially Impact can Significant & will be mitigated

Insignificant Impact Not Applicable

a) Have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of

	California history or prehistory?				
b)	Have impacts that are individually lin considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable incremental effects of a project are constant connection with the effects of past project current project's, and the effects of	erable" me iderable w	eans that t hen viewed	he in	
	probable future projects)			5 db	
c)	Have environmental effects which will c adverse effects on human beings, either			100	
	indirectly?	<u></u>		1000	_

For further information on CEQA or the county's environmental review process, please visit the County's web site at "www.slocoplanbldg.com" under "Environmental Review", or the California Environmental Resources Evaluation System at "http://ceres.ca.gov/topic/env\_law/ceqa/guidelines/" for information about the California Environmental Quality Act.

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## Exhibit A - Initial Study References and Agency Contacts

The County Planning or Environmental Division have contacted various agencies for their comments on the proposed project. With respect to the subject application, the following have been contacted (marked with an "X") and when a response was made, it is either attached or in the application file:

Contacted Agency	Response
County Public Works Department	Not Applicable
County Environmental Health Division	Not Applicable
County Agricultural Commissioner's Office	Not Applicable
County Airport Manager	Not Applicable
Airport Land Use Commission	Not Applicable
Air Pollution Control District	Not Applicable
County Sheriff's Department	Not Applicable
Regional Water Quality Control Board	Not Applicable
	Not Applicable
CA Department of Fish and Game	Not Applicable
CA Department of Forestry	Not Applicable
CA Coastal Commission CA Department of Fish and Game CA Department of Forestry CA Department of Transportation	Not Applicable
Community Service District	Tot Approads
Other	
* "No comment" or "No concerns"-type responses are usual	ally not attached
The definition of the defice the type respended and uses	any not altaonou
The following checked ("V") reference materials have be	en used in the environmental review for the
proposed project and are hereby incorporated by refere	
information is available at the County Planning and Buildir	
	C to as the contract of the co
✓ Project File for the Subject Application	Area Plan and Update EIR
County documents	Circulation Study
Airport Land Use Plans	Other documents
✓ Annual Resource Summary Report	Archaeological Resources Map
Building and Construction Ordinance	Area of Critical Concerns Map
Coastal Policies	Areas of Special Biological Importance
✓ Framework for Planning (Coastal & Inland)	Мар
✓ General Plan (Inland & Coastal), including all	California Natural Species Diversity
maps & elements; more pertinent elements	Database
considered include:	✓ Clean Air Plan
✓ Agriculture & Open Space Element	Fire Hazard Severity Map
Energy Element	Flood Hazard Maps
Environment Plan (Conservation, Historic	Natural Resources Conservation
and Esthetic Elements)	Service Soil Survey for San Luis
✓ Housing Element	Obispo County
✓ Noise Element	Regional Transportation Plan
Parks & Recreation Element	Uniform Fire Code
Safety Element	✓ Water Quality Control Plan (Central)
✓ Land Use Ordinance	Coast Basin - Region 3)
Real Property Division Ordinance	Other
Trails Plan	Other
Solid Waste Management Plan	

In addition, the following project-specific information and/or reference materials have been considered as a part of the Initial Study:

- San Luis Obispo County Health Commission Task Force on Biosolids. Revised September 29, 1999. Biosolids: An Overview and Recommendations for Land Application in San Luis Obispo County.
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District. November 28, 2001. 2001 Annual Biosolids Report for 2000 - 2001.
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District. October 25, 2000. 2000 Annual Biosolids Report for 1999 - 2000.
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District. October 22, 1999. 1999 Annual Biosolids Report for 1998 - 1999.
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District. February 3, 1999. 1998 Annual Biosolids Report for 1997 - 1998.
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District. December 17, 1997. 1997 Annual Biosolids Report for 1996 - 1997.
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District. No Date. 1996 Annual Biosolids Report for 1995 -
- South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District. No Date. 1995 Annual Biosolids Report for 1994 -1995.

## Exhibit B - Mitigation Summary Table

None Applicable

#### ORDINANCE NO. \_\_3023\_\_\_\_ AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH AN INTERIM MORATORIUM ON THE LAND APPLICATION OF TREATED SEWAGE SLUDGE/BIOSOLIDS

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, ordains as follows:

SECTION I: That Chapter 8.13 of the County Code be added as follows:

### 8.13.010 Purpose.

The Board of Supervisors does hereby find, determine and declare the unregulated application of biosolids as defined in this chapter, also referred to as treated sewage sludge, may pose a risk to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of San Luis Obispo County. Biosolids contain heavy metals, pathogenic organisms, chemical pollutants, and synthetic organic compounds, which may pose a risk to the public health and the environment if improperly handled. The purpose of this chapter is to establish an interim moratorium on the land application of biosolids other than exceptional quality (EQ). Further, it is the intent of this interim moratorium to assure the quantity of exceptional quality (EQ) biosolids applied and discibuted in San Luis Obispo County shall not exceed historic levels.

#### 8.13.020 Definitions.

The following words and phrases shall be interpreted as follows:

(1) "Treated Sewage Sludge/Biosolids" mean treated solid, semisolid or liquid residues generated during the treatment of sewage in a wastewater treatment facility meeting 40 CFR Part 503 requirements specified in Section 503.32 for pathogen reduction, Section 502.33 for vector attraction reduction, and Section 503.13, Tables 1 and 3 for pollutant concentrations. These residues include, but are not limited to scum or solids removed in primary, secondary, or advanced wastewater treatment processes. "Biosolids" as used i...is chapter excludes composted and other biosolids products packaged in a bag or container for routine retail sales through regular retail nutlets primarily used for landscaping, and excludes those biosolic totherwise disposed of at a regulated landfill. "Biosolids" as used in this chapter also excludes biosolids composted with other organic products such as green waste and sold in bulk form.

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- (2) "Exceptional Quality Biosolids" means Class A biosolids meeting the pollutant concentrations in 40 CFR 503.13 Table 3 and have achieved a level of vector attraction reduction required by 40 CFR 503.33. Additionally, Class A biosolids must meet either fecal coliform or Salmonella sp. bacterial limits contained in Alternatives 1 through 6 of 40 CFR 503.32(a) to be exceptional quality. For the purposes of this chapter, exceptional quality biosolids are in bulk form and shall not include compost meeting or exceeding exceptional quality criteria.
- (3) "Person" means any individual, firm, association, partnership, political subdivision, government agency, municipality, public or private corporation or any other entity whatsoever.

#### Section 8.13.030. Interim Moratorium.

Except as otherwise provided herein, there shall be an interim moratorium on the application or distribution of biosolids and exceptional quality biosolids on any land within the unincorporated areas of San Luis Obispo County. The moratorium established by this Ordinance shall remain in effect until such time as a permanent ordinance regulating the land application of biosolids and except onal quality biosolids is enacted by the Board of Supervisors, or 24 months from the enactment of this ordinance, whichever first occurs. The moratorium shall apply to any person applying or distributing biosolids in San Luis Obispo County, subject to the following requirements:

- (1) Any person who desires to distribute or apply biosolids in a quantity equaling or exceeding 5.0 cubic yards during the period of the moratorium, shall notify in writing the San Luis Obispo County Public Health Department, Edvision of Environmental Health thirty (30) days prior to Egulication or distribution; and
- (2) The Division of Environmental Health shall not authorize more than a cumulative total of 1,500 cubic yards of exceptional quality biosolids to be applied or distributed within the unincorporated areas of San Luis Obispo County during any twelve-month period beginning with the adoption of this ordinance. If the cumulative total of exceptional quality biosolids land applied or distributed in a 12 month period is less than 1,500 cubic yards, the remainder shall be carried over to the subsequent 12 month period and added to the 1,500 cubic yards.
- (3) The Division of Environmental Health shall be empowered to probibit any application of biosolids, including exceptional quality biosolids under the following conditions:

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- a. Biosolids failing to meet exceptional quality (EQ) standards as described in 40 CFR 503 13 Table 3 and have achieved a level of vector attraction reduction required by 40 CFR 503.33. Additionally, biosolids failing to meet either feeal coliform or Schnonello sp. bacterial limits contained in Alternatives 1 through 6 of 40 CFR 503.32(a).
- b. The application of biosolids is in excess of the cumulative total limitation set forth above in paragraph
- c. The applicant cannot provide documentation of biosolids meeting EQ standards.
- (4) The Environmental Health Division shall develop policies and procedures to implement the requirements of this ordinance.

Section 8.13.040. Penalties

Any person who violates any provisions of this chapter shall be guilty of a misdemeanor pursuant to chapter 1.04.010.

SECTION II: If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or the constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The Board of Supervisors hereby declares it would have passed this ordinance and each section, subsection, sentence, clause o: phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses, or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION III: Before the passage of 15 days after adoption of this ordinance, it shall be published with the names of the Board of Supervisors members voting for and against same. once in a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors held on the 24th day of Feirmen, 2004, and passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, on the 2nd day of March , 2004, by the following roll call vote, to-wit:

AYES: Supervisors Shirley Bianchi, Michael Pa Ryan, K.H. "Katcho" Achadjian, and Chairperson Harry L. Ovitt

NGES: Supervisor Peg Pinard

ABSENT: None

Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of

California

ATTEST:

Julie L. Rodewald
County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors, County of San
Luis Obispo, State of California

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

J. AMES B. LINDHOLM, JR. County Counsel

Raymond A. Biering
Fepuly County Counse

Dated: 2 10 , 2004.

The undersigned Deputy Clark of the Board of Supervisors certifice that, pursuant to Section 25103 of the Government code, delivery of this document has been made on Daylory

JULIE L. RODEWALD
County Clerk and IX-Clicio Clerk
of the Board of Supervisors

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